

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 016979
ORIGIN AF-10

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DRAFTED BY AF/E:KPGARLAND:JJ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, ET, US

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL LETTER TO CHARGE TIENKEN

1. OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN FRED ROONEY OF PENNSYLVANIA HAS NOT RECEIVED ANSWER TO NOVEMBER 22 LETTER TO FORMER CHARGE ARTHUR TIENKEN. PLEASE PROVIDE DEPT WITH TEXT OF REPLY AND ESTIMATE LIKELIHOOD LETTER INTERCEPTED IF SENT VIA OPEN INTERNATIONAL MAIL.

2. TEXT OF ROONEY LETTER TO TIENKEN FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: A YOUNG ETHIOPIAN WOMAN WHO WORKS FOR MY WIFE'S FAMILY RECEIVED WORD FROM HER PARENTS YESTERDAY THAT HER TWO BROTHERS' LIVES ARE IN DANGER. APPARENTLY THE PARTICULAR TRIBE TO WHICH HER FAMILY BELONG HAS BEEN EARMARKED FOR ANNIHILATION OF MALE YOUTHS. THIS IS A LARGE FAMILY BUT THESE BOYS LIVING AT HOME HAVE EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT UNLESS THEY LEAVE THE AREA, OR ARE PROTECTED FROM AN OUTSIDE SOURCE, THERE IS LITTLE HOPE THEY WILL NOT BE HARMED. IT IS ALWAYS A SHOCK TO LEARN OF THESE TRAGIC

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PAGE 02 STATE 016979

SITUATIONS AND I BEG YOU, MR. TIENKIN, TO DO EVERYTHING IN YOUR POWER TO HELP THIS FAMILY.

BECAUSE OF POLITICAL OVERTONES, I DECIDED NOT TO TELEPHONE YOU ON AN OPEN LINE, SINCE OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE

COULD BE DANGEROUS TO THEM. WHEN MATTERS SUCH AS THIS

ARE BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION, IT BRINGS HOME THE NEED FOR HUMAN RIGHTS OUR PRESIDENT IS URGING FOR PEOPLE OF ALL NATIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

THE PRINCIPALS INVOLVED ARE TEKESTE TEDLA, AGE 17, AND BEREKET TEDLA, AGE 15. THEY LIVE WITH THEIR PARENTS. THERE ARE THREE BROTHERS AND A SISTER LIVING IN THE FAMILY HOME. THE THIRD BROTHER IS TEN YEARS OLD. THERE ARE OTHER SISTERS LIVING ELSEWHERE. THEIR FATHER'S NAME IS BASHAI TEDLA ZEWLDI, P.O. BOX 5874, ADDIS ABABA. HOWEVER THE PERSON YOU SHOULD CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, INSTEAD OF MAKING CONTACT WITH THE BOYS OR THEIR PARENTS, IS A SISTER, W/ZO MEHERET TEDLA, P.O. BOX 1665, ADDIS ABABA, TEL. NO. 44-34-58. HER HUSBAND'S NAME IS SYIUM ASGEDOM. APPARENTLY THESE BOYS ARE ON A GOVERNMENT LIST AND POLICE OFFICERS HAVE BEEN TO THE HOME FOR THEM.

PLEASE HELP IN ANY WAY YOU FEEL WOULD BE MOST EFFECTIVE AND ADVISE ME AS SOON AS YOU HAVE FURTHER INFORMATION.

ACCEPT MY THANKS AND DEEP APPRECIATION FOR YOUR PERSONAL ATTENTION TO THIS MATTER. END QUOTE.

CHRISTOPHER

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